

Message Text

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21/14

ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DRC-01 IGA-02 EA-11 PM-07 CAB-09

CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00

SSO-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 NSCE-00 NSC-10 SS-15 /137 W

----- 020040

O R 050600Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3284

SECDEF IMMEDIATE

CJCS IMMEDIATE

INFO CINCPAC

CINCPACAF

COMUSSAG

C O N F I D E N T I A L PHNOM PENH 10733

STATE PASS TO AID, CIA

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, EAID, CB

SUBJECT: URGENT NEED TO UPGRADE CONTROL TOWER COMMUNICATIONS (U)

1. (C) THIS MISSION HAS BEEN CONCERNED FOR SOMETIME ABOUT THE INADEQUATE COMMUNICATIONS CAPABILITY OF THE CIVILIAN CONTROL TOWER AT POCHENTONG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT. THE TOWER IS EQUIPPED WITH AN OLD PAYE VHF RADIO CONSOLE WHICH HAS BEEN UNREALIABLE. THE VOLUME OF AIR TRAFFIC BOTH CIVILIAN AND MILITARY, IS VERY HEAVY AND CONTINUES TO INCREASE. THIS HAS RESULTED IN COMPLAINTS FM INTERNATIONAL AIR CARRIERS AND ACTUAL SUSPENSION OF AIR FRANCE FLIGHTS FOR A PERIOD. DAO AND MEDTC PERSONNEL ATTEST TO THE EXTREMELY HAZARDOUS NATURE OF AIR OPERATIONS AT POCHENTON. IMPROVED COMMUNICATIONS CAPABILITY FOR THE TOWER IS THE FIRST STEP TOWARD RECTIFYING THIS DANGEROUS SITUATION, TO BE FOLLOWED BY ADDITIONAL TRAINING IN AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL PROCEDURES FOR THE TOWER PERSONNEL. THE MISSION IS INVESTIGATING THE LATTER PROBLEM AT THE PRESENT TIME AND HAS BEEN UNABLE TO
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SOLVE THE FORMER.

2. (C) THE MISSION HAS ATTEMPTED TO BORROW A SUITABLE VHF RADIO TRANSMITTER/RECEIVER WHICH COULD BE INSTALLED IN THE TOWER ON A TEMPORARY BASIS PENDING EXECUTION OF A USAID PROJECT TO PURCHASE AND INSTALL THE REQUIRED EQUIPMENT. USSAG HAS QUERIED CINCPAC BUT A THOROUGH SEARCH OF ASSETS THROUGHOUT THE PACIFIC AREA REVEALS THAT THE REQUIRED EQUIPMENT IS NOT AVAILABLE.

3. (C) REQUEST EMERGENCY ACTION TO PURCHASE AND SHIP TO THIS MISSION THE FOLLOWING EQUIPMENT. ONE VHF TRANSMITTER, AN/GRT-18, FSN 5820-913-99280; ONE VHF RECEIVER, AN/GRR-25, FSN 5820-899-9975; MOUNTING FRAMES OR CONSOLE, ANTENNAS, SPEAKERS, AND MICROPHONES TO USE WITH THIS RADIO. IN ADDITION, WE WILL REQUIRE THE APPROPRIATE POWER PACK TO UTILIZE THIS RADIO WITH 220 VOLT/50CYCLE/SECOND ELECTRIC POWER. IN SHORT, WE NEED SHIPMENT OF THE COMPLETE "SET" READY FOR INSTALLATION IN THE TOWER ASAP.

4. PROPOSE TO FINANCE UNDER PAGA 442-K-610. FOR FR ISSUANCE REQUEST AID/W ADVISE APPROXIMATE LANDED VALUE BASED ON AIR SHIPMENT, NAME OF U.S. GOVERNMENT AGENCY TO PROCURE AND ANY SPECIAL PROVISIONS NECESSARY IN FR WHICH AID/W REQUIRES. REQUEST FOR THIS TRANSACTION SHORTEST POSSIBLE WAITING PERIOD BETWEEN IFB AND AWARD; ALSO UPON MAKING AWARD REQUEST CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN FOR SOONEST DELIVERY. ADVISE.
ENDERS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: elyme
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973PHNOM10733
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS ENDERS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: PHNOM PENH
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731047/aaaabisu.tel
Line Count: 88
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AID
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: elyme
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 NOV 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20-Nov-2001 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <04-Jan-2002 by elyme>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: URGENT NEED TO UPGRADE CONTROL TOWER COMMUNICATIONS (U)
TAGS: PINS, EAID, CB
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005